

Lana,

Please send the below to all WY FB Officials. Thank you!

October 22, 2025

Football Officials,

I always have mixed feelings when we hit this point of the season. What a year it has been! There's been ups and downs, good calls, calls worth reviewing, and calls that we've flat out missed. There's been lots of memories along the way. As we complete the regular season, let's put our best effort on the field – and help these teams finish well. As always, please reach out with plays, rules questions, or anything else.

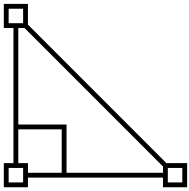
Week Eight Training Email

1. Rules Knowledge – Own Your Learning!

- a. Rules Quiz: <https://forms.gle/kj8zuSeHBhjvdHiD7>
- b. Your feedback on the weekly quizzes is *always* welcome!

2. Field Mechanics

a. What's My Angle?



- i. It's amazing how a change in angle changes our entire perspective on a play. As a white hat, it was incredible how much better I could see my opposite tackle by widening my initial position. Instead of being so set (like freaking concrete) in one spot, be pliable and move so you can see what you need to. Show me an official with good judgment and I'll show you an official who strives for the best angle.
- ii. Raising two children has changed my perspective on several things. My wife has different perspectives that can be so maddening it causes me to see red. Of course, I'm right. Until I've had time to reflect and consider her (far superior) angle. Clearly, I'm wrong... again. As with TV cameras, multiple human perspectives are better than a single one -- which is why sports officials come together to get difficult calls correct.
- iii. A few key points on angles for football officials:
 1. Make sure your initial positioning allows you to see your keys.
 2. Wing officials - Take a half-step up or down the LOS if you're straight-lined by a WR and can't see through to your tackle.
 - a. Don't trail plays too closely. You can't see lead blocks when you're right on top of the runner. The spot will be there, expand your vision.
 - b. Don't be afraid to move into the offensive backfield, or otherwise allow the runner to pass you, and then trail the play.
 3. Back Judges – you can move just about anywhere between the uprights, so make sure you're able to see your keys as well as (be able to) make eye contact with your R and with QB1.
 4. Umpires – Movement helps you find the right angle to see your keys... but... it also may protect you! Good teams will see your (predictable) alignment and use you as a screen. It never hurts to mix it up a bit.
 5. Referees – wide is our friend! It keeps us out of the way, allows us to see more than just QB1, and gives us leeway when the action moves out of the pocket.
 - a. Rarely will the passer foul, but if we're too close to him, we won't be able to see the oncoming rushers, how they got to QB1, or if they were fouled.

3. Officiating Philosophy

- a. Throw it at the Bullseye!
 - i. When we think about whether to throw a foul, or not... often times location on the field is part of the consideration... or at least it had better be.
 - ii. Barring the block being a “take down,” we shouldn’t be throwing Holding on players clearly away from the action. That is...the ball and the action is to the other side of the field.
 - iii. The closer we get to the “bullseye” (the point of attack), the higher our level of scrutiny.
 1. And the further away we are, the more we can (*and should*) pass on the foul.
 - iv. Now... if a defender is literally blocked into the runner and makes the tackle, at or near the original line, why on earth would we also throw on that? The athlete still made the play. Don’t throw!
- b. Okay... that’s enough rambling. All this to say... focus your fouls on the point of attack and on athletes still being able to make plays.
- c. Just remember the Holding Bullseye!



4. Football Teaching Tape

- a. Link: https://youtu.be/Wo2vTTJ_LUE
- b. Thanks to the crews and officials featured in this week’s film for their commitment to the improvement of *all* officials!

Finish this Season **STRONG!**

Tyler Spear
State Coordinator of Football Officials
970-554-1600
tyler.s.spear@gmail.com